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PP RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNAG RUEHNH
DE RUEHKO #2488 3010000
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P 280000Z OCT 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7109
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHHMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 7128
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA 9484
RUEHNAG/AMCONSUL NAGOYA 4376
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO 7640
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 0946
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 1599
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 3064
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 8256
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 7773
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 002488

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR, EAP/J, EAP/P,
PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [OIIP](#) [KMDR](#) [KPAO](#) [JA](#)

SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - AFGHANISTAN AND U.S.-CHINA
RELATIONS

11. LEAD STORIES: Most Wednesday morning papers led with reports on yesterday's collision between an MSDF destroyer and an ROK freighter in the Kanmon Strait in Fukuoka.

12. "Run-off Election Must Be Fair" On the upcoming run-off presidential race in Afghanistan, the liberal Mainichi editorialized (10/28): "Just as in the first round, massive election fraud, as well as obstruction by Islamic radicals such as the Taliban, is anticipated in the run-off. A confrontation over the legitimacy of the race cannot be avoided regardless of whether President Karzai or former Foreign Minister Abdullah is elected.... Afghan authorities will be required to make an all-out effort to conduct a fair poll at a time when war-weariness is mounting in the U.S. and Europe, which have committed troops to Afghanistan, and when 'assistance fatigue' is emerging within the international community."

13. "Chinese Military Leader Stresses Confidence Building in Session with Top Pentagon Official" On Secretary of Defense Gates's meeting with visiting Vice Chairman of China's Central Military Commission General Xu in Washington on Tuesday, the conservative Sankei wrote (10/28): "The U.S. is worried about the current situation in which China is continuing its arms buildup aimed at increasing deterrence against the U.S., including the development of a long-range ballistic missile capable of reaching all of North America. Washington is poised to call for increased transparency in China's defense policy and its military operation through enhanced military exchanges.... The Chinese are well aware of the U.S.'s intent, with the main purpose of General Xu's visit to the U.S. being to prevent U.S. concerns from mounting. A Chinese source based in the U.S. holds the view that China is being presented with a great opportunity to highlight 'U.S.-China coordination' in this time of instability in the U.S.-Japan alliance over U.S. force realignment issues."

